



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Akinori IWASE et al.
Title: IMAGE FORMING SYSTEM AND IMAGE FORMING APPARATUS
Appl. No.: 10/073,894
Filing Date: 02/14/2002
Examiner: T. Nguyen
Art Unit: 3661

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 CFR §1.56

Mail Stop AMENDMENT
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Submitted herewith on Form PTO/SB/08 is a listing of documents known to applicants in order to comply with applicants' duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56.

A copy of each non-U.S. patent document and each non-patent document is being submitted to comply with the provisions of 37 CFR §1.97 and §1.98.

The submission of any document herewith, which is not a statutory bar, is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application or that such document is considered material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR §1.56(b). Applicants do not waive any rights to take any action which would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove as a competent reference any document which is determined to be a *prima facie* art reference against the claims of the present application.

TIMING OF THE DISCLOSURE

The listed documents are being submitted in compliance with 37 CFR §1.97(b), after the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits.

STATEMENT

The undersigned hereby states in accordance with 37 CFR §1.97(e)(1) that each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three (3) months prior to filing of this Statement.

RELEVANCE OF EACH DOCUMENT

Documents C2-C6 were cited in a search report in a corresponding European application. Documents C1-C3, C5, and C6 are in English. Document C4 corresponds to document C1. A copy of the European search report is also enclosed.

Applicants respectfully request that the listed documents be considered by the Examiner and formally be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form SB/08 be returned in accordance with MPEP §609.

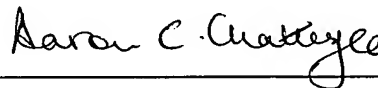
Should additional fees be necessary in connection with the filing of this paper, or if a petition for extension of time is required for timely acceptance of same, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge deposit account No. 19-0741 for any such fees; and applicants hereby petition for any needed extension of time.

Respectfully submitted,

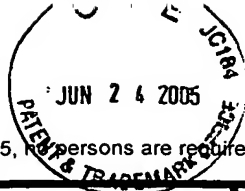
Date June 24, 2005

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Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449B/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT Date Submitted: <u>June 24, 2005</u> (use as many sheets as necessary)		Complete if Known			
		Application Number	10/073,894		
		Filing Date	02/14/2002		
		First Named Inventor	Akinori IWASE et al.		
		Group Art Unit	3661		
		Examiner Name	T. Nguyen		
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	065905-0249

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)			
	C1	6,366,849	B1	RYCHLAK	04/02/2002	
	C2	US 2001/0038346	A1	LEARMAN et al.	11/08/2001	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Documents	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Office ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
	C3	EP	1 063 494	A1	SEKIYAMA	12/27/2000		
	C4	DE	199 27 640	A1	RYCHLAK	01/04/2001		
	C5	EP	0 999 678	A2	HOROWITZ	05/10/2000		
	C6	GB	2 298 539	A	DEEHAN	09/04/1996		

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.) date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.			T ⁶

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ²See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document.

⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.